THE TRUE

ACCOUNT

OF THE

BEHAVIOUR

AND

CONFESSION

OF

Alice Millikin,

Who was Burnt in

SMITHFIELD

On *Wedneſday* the 2*d.* of *June*, 1686. For HIGH-TREASON, in Clipping the Kings Coin.

VEry many are the Inſtances of this ſort of Crime; yet ſad it is to obſerve that nothing can deter, thoſe who exerciſe themſelves in this ſort of Wickedneſs.

Yet, if rightly conſidered, it is one of the moſt abominable Practices. For it is not only a great diſhonour to His Moſt Sacred Majeſty and a perverſe Abuſe of his Mercy and Clemency, beſtowed on ſome Offenders of this kind; but likewiſe the Community may ſuffer much prejudice by it, although the greateſt Miſchief Redounds to the perſons themſelves, who Diminiſh the full Weight of His Majeſties Coin: This Crime expoſing them to an Ignominous Death, through a covetous deſire, to ſatisfie their Exceſs in a ſinful Courſe of Life, whereupon, that Saying of *Solomon* is viſited, *That Gain gotten by Deceit, is a Vanity toſſed too and fro, by them who ſeek Death: And that the Treaſures of Wickedneſs profit nothing*, though they bring not the fears of the Unjuſt preſently upon them.

Thus

Thus hath it happened to this perſon, of whom we give you this Relation.

Alice Millikin, Condemned the laſt Seſſions for High-Treaſon, ſhe Confeſſed the Fact; ſhe was about Forty Years of Age, ſhe was Born in *Herefordſhire*, and was brought up to make Gloves: She alſo Married a Glover in that Country; where they lived ſome time, but afterwards (as ſhe told the *Ordinary*) her Husband growing very froward to her, and wholly neglectful of his Trade, ſhe was forced to work hard, to get a Livelihood for her ſelf and her Children, of which, one Son is left, *viz. David Millikin*, who alſo was Condemned the laſt Seſſions for the ſame Fact, but hath ſince received his Majeſties moſt Gracious Reprieve: He was Bred up to the Trade of a Glover.

She ſaid, *That ſhe often prayed to God to change her husbands heart, and to Reform his wicked Life*: But good Counſel made him more Obſtinate and Averſe from his Duty to God and Man.

After a conſiderable waiting for his Amendment (but in vain) She left dwelling with him, and came to *London*, where ſhe was frequently hired to Waſh and Scoure, and ſometimes to be a Nurſe-keeping; But Poverty grew upon her, and with it a Covetous mind, ſo falling into Bad Acquaintance, ſhe loſt her former Employment, and living idly, ſhe met with one Mrs. *Chaſton*, who uſed the wicked Art of Clipping, and is not yet Apprehended. She ſaid ſhe knew no more of the Gang; but the ſaid Mrs. *Chaſton*, inticed her to aſſiſt her in Clipping: At laſt ſhe ſet up the Practice of it her ſelf; which ſhe now Laments too late, but Begs God's and the King's Pardon of it.

She was much troubled, that ſhe had been very neglective of God's Laws and breaking the Sabbath, and that ſhe hath not at any time adheared to the motions of God's Spirit, nor improved the Opportunities ſhe had tending toward Salvation.

That ſhe is now truly ſorry, that ſhe hath miſpent ſo much precious time and delay'd her Repentance, and that were it to be Redeemed, ſhe would give all the World, were it in her Power.

On *Sunday*, the *Ordinary* obſerving how falſe, ſlight, and fickle, Criminals Vows are, of Repentance and Reformation, after they are ſpared, Preached upon the Sixth Chapter of *Hoſea* and the Fourth Verſe, O Ephraim, *what ſhall I do to thee? O* Judah, *what ſhall I do with thee, for your Goodneſs is as the Morning Cloud and as the Early Dew, it puffs away*

In Proſecution of which Text, he laid down many Remarks, whereby we may ſuſpect Vows and Reſolutions of Reformation, not to be ſincere, and how it comes to paſs, that they are ſo often broken, with Directions ſo to make them as to fix them, that they may become truly practicable. I mention this, becauſe *Alice Millikin* the Clipper, was very much affected with that Diſcourſe, and that Prayer made in her behalf. Indeed ſhe appeared very penitent at any time when ſhe was prayed withal: And ſince the few days reſpite ſhe hath had, more than ſhe expected; the *Ordinary* askt her, if that Favour did not make her ſecure as if ſhe ſhould not Dye.

She answered, No; She blefs'd God, she had improved the Time, having been extraordinary earneſt in Prayer, and doth extremely deſire to Repent thorowly of all her Sins ſecret and known. The *Ordinary* was early with her on *Wedneſday*, the day of her *Execution*, and exhorted her not to deceive her ſelf with falſe hopes of a Bleſſed eternity.

He inſtructed her more fully in the Nature of True Faith and Repentance, and inquired many things relating to her Soul, which were too long here to give an Account of.

She ſaid, after I had prayed a conſiderable time with her; that ſhe was much troubled about the manner of her Death; yet ſaid, that ſhe hoped the Lord would rowl away the Reproach of it, becauſe ſhe truely deſired to be reconciled to him; And though ſhe had not that Aſſurance of God's love, which ſhe longed after, yet ſhe bleſs'd the, *Lord* ſhe had inward ſupport of mind by cleaving to Chriſt in her Death. She hoped he had made ſatisfaction to Gods offended Juſtice for all her provocations of Him. She confeſs'd they had been many and great, and deſired to Mourn that she could grieve no more for every ſin, which she endeavoured to call to mind, and be rightly penitent for.

The *Ordinary* ſtaid with her till the Sheriffs Officers came to demand her. Then about Ten of the Clock she went on foot, guarded to the place of *Execution* in *Smithfield*. I went along with her thither: She exhorted the People to take Warning by her, not to offend in the ſame, or any other way againſt the known *Laws*: she pray'd for her ſelf, and the *Ordinary* after that pray'd for her, and endeavour'd to comfort her, for she ſeemed very penitent. Afterward she went to the Pedſtall, and was faſtned by a Rope to the

Stake,

Stake, with an Iron *Hoop* about her middle, that she might ſink through into the pile of Fire, after she was ſtifled.

She warned all to beware of a Covetous heart, and in poverty not to diſtruſt God's Providence, but to fear and ſerve *Him*, and then the like fatal end will not attend them.

After this I took my Farewell of her, and left her to be executed according to *Law*.

Dated this 2d of *June*, 1686.

Samuel Smith, Ordinary.

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